

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated April 18, 2003. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the patent application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

Upon entry of the foregoing Amendment, claims 11, 14, 16, 23 and 26 have been amended and claim 7 has been cancelled. Claims 1 - 6 and 8 - 27 remain in the application. The amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Summary of First Office Action

- I. The abstract was objected to because it is too long.
- II. Claims 7, 11, 14, 16 - 22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 112.
- III. Claims 1 - 6, 8 - 10, 12, 13, 15, 23 - 25 and 27 were allowed.

Summary of Amendment

Claims 11, 14, 16, 23 and 26 have been amended and claim 7 has been cancelled. Claims 1 - 6 and 8 - 27 remain in the application.

Remarks regarding I:

The specification has been amended to reduce the word count to below 150 pursuant to MPEP § 608.01(b). Applicant, therefore, submits this objection has been rendered moot.

Remarks regarding II:

Claims 7 has been cancelled. Applicant submits, the indefiniteness of claim 11 has been traversed by the amendment to include a specific range, to wit:

“a ~~300~~few hundred nanometers and a ~~few~~300 thousand microns.”

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 13, thus providing antecedent basis.

Claim 16 has been amended to remove the antecedent basis objection for “the first and second frequencies”. Applicant submits this should traverse the rejection of claims 17 - 22 as well.

Claim 26 has been amended to depend from claim 25 thereby providing antecedent basis for “the mixing step”.

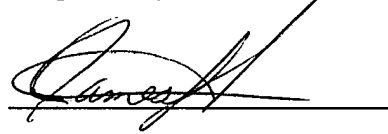
CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds of rejections have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action.

If the Examiner believes, for any reasons, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the following number: 202-607-4607.

The USPTO is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 502697 any fees associated with this response including the petition for the two month extension.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James S. Finn", is written over a horizontal line.

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